
OPERATIONS
OF THE
ALLIED ARMS,
DURING
The CAMPAIGNS of 1743 and 1744

OF THE

OF THE

ALLIED

OF THE

OF THE

OF THE

O

A

TH

Pr

THE
OPERATIONS
OF THE
BRITISH,
AND THE
ALLIED ARMS,
DURING

The CAMPAIGNS of 1743 and 1744,

Historically deducted.

By an EYE-WITNESS.

— *Quæque ipse miserrima Vidi*
Et quorum pars magna fui. — VIRG.



LONDON:
Printed for M. COOPER, at the Globe, in Paternoster-Row. 1745.

[Price Sixpence.]

THE
OPERATIONS

OF THE

BRITISH

ALLIED ARMY

IN

THE

THE

11:1754



PROCEEDINGS
OF THE
ARMY
IN

Flanders and Germany.

WHEN the Army's first taking the Field, I resolv'd to preserve, in the Nature of a Journal, the most remarkable Occurrences that might fall within my View or Knowledge, without any other End than my own Amusement and Satisfaction. But on comparing my Collections with the Relations with which the Prejudiced and the Ignorant have deceived the World, I judged, imperfect as they are, they would not be an improper Present to my Countrymen, whose Curiosity

must lead them to enquire, *for what* so many Millions have been wasted on the Continent, and whose Candour will at least forgive that Attempt, which has nothing in View but their Information.

As the Troubles ensuing the Death of the late Emperor, the Part that *England*, on the Revolution in its Administration, took in these Troubles, the Nomination of the Earl *Stair* to the Command of the Army, and his Embassy to *Holland*, are Transactions so notorious, that to touch on them were equally needless and presumptuous, I shall begin with the Operations of the Army subsequent to them.

On the March of *Mailebois's* Army, in 1742, from *Westphalia* to the Relief of *Prague*, *Stair* formed a Scheme for a powerful and effectual Diversion in the *Netherlands*, at once to serve *Britain* by taking *Dunkirk*, and the Queen of *Hungary* by drawing away the Troops that were preying on the Vitals of her Country, to defend the Barrier of their own. And as the Body of Troops, in that Country, was at that Time inconsiderable, and the Garrisons but ill provided and weak, it was far from being improbable, that not the Barrier only was in Danger.

In consequence of this Scheme, the *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, in Pay of *Great Britain*, marched from *Hanover* to *Brabant*. But as no Address however adapted, no Memorials
how-

however strongly penn'd, of the Ambassador, not even the personal Application of the Minister of *England* himself, cou'd prevail on the *Dutch* to join their Troops, it was thought proper to lay aside that Enterprize, and to end the Year with doing nothing; altho' it might have been effectuated by the Army then ready to act, consisting of 50,000 *British*, *Austrians*, *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*.

As a Desire to go hand in hand with the *Dutch* prevented Operations that Season, Complaisance for the same prevented kindling the War on their Frontiers the next, and occasion'd the March of the Troops about *Candlemas* from *Flanders* to the Neighbourhood of *Aix-la Chapelle*; Sometime after which their High Mightiness graciously condescended to change that Subsidy of Money to the Queen into a Supply of Troops.

In *March*, 1743, the Elector of *Mentz* died, and as a Voice in the Electoral College, and the Acquisition of a powerful Prince must be of great Consequence to either of the Parties at that Time contending about the Fate of *Germany*, *Stair* thought proper to prosecute his March farther into the Empire that the free Voice of the Chapter might not be influenc'd by the Assembly of *Noailles's* Army at *Landau*, and that he might effectually oppose the other Designs of that, and save the Queen of *Hungary* from the Ruin threatened her by the Junction of his Army to that
of

that of *Broglio*. At this Time we began to suspect the enterprizing Genius of our General agreed but ill with the Schemes of our Minister, who perhaps thinking to accomplish his End by threatening Appearances only, and not by Action (the Stale *Spithead* Artifice of his Predecessor carried a little further) or waiting the Junction of his Phlegmatic Brothers of *Holland*, thwarted, at least retarded his Lordship's Endeavours, delay'd the March of the *German* Part of the Army, and stirred up, for Observers of his Motions and Opposers of his Councils, those of his Generals that preferred their Interest to their Duty. This Misunderstanding broke out at last into the Resignation of our noble Commander. However the March took Effect, and *L-----r* with the first Division, consisting of the Grenadiers of the Army, crossed the *Rhine* on a Bridge of Boats at *Neuwied*, where he halted till joined by the rest of the Army. From thence it marched to the Place of Rendezvous at *Hoechst* upon the *Main* near *Frankfort*, where it joined the Body of *Austrians* under Marshals *A-----g* and *N-----g*.

The slow March of the *Hanoverians* and *Hessians*, the last of which did not come up till after the Affair of *Dettingen*, which happened in *June*, greatly obstructed the intended Operations, prevented the March into the *Pais de Darmstadt*, the hindering the *French* Detachment under *Segur* from joining *Broglio*,
lio,

lio, and keeping their chief Army behind the *Rhine* and the *Neckar*, and deprived us of the Forage of that Country, the Loss of which was soon afterwards severely felt by the Troops, and dearly paid for by the Nation. While *S---* was thus oblig'd to be unactive at *Hoechst*, *Noailles* cross'd the *Rhine* at *Rhine-Turkheim*, below *Worms*, and marched towards the *Main*, with a View to seize a rising Ground on his Side of that River that commanded *Hoechst*, and our Army encamp'd in its Neighbourhood. But tho' our General was prevented from seeking the Enemy, he neglected nothing to give them a good Reception. On their Approach he cross'd the *Main*, and drew up his Army at *Killertsbach*, chose such a Situation, and made such a Disposition as equally manifested his Abilities, and secured his Forces. They remained in the Field from three in the Morning till three in the Afternoon; and as the *French*, instead of advancing, were entrenching in their Camp at *Gerau*, they were drawn into Camp, and, by an Express from *Hanover*, ordered to re-cross the *Main*.

Let me observe that *S---* was opposed in this Undertaking by all the foreign Generals, and some of our own, who perhaps thought it too great a Risque to venture so small an Army to that of the *French*, which Report had then magnified to 100,000 Men; or were desirous to defer coming to Action till the

the Arrival of his Majesty, which was then speedily expected. But his Conduct needs no other Vindication but this, that the *French* declined the Attack, and serves to afford a remarkable Instance of his superior Judgment, and well-grounded Intelligence (small as his Contingencies were) of the last, as he knew the *French*, not so strong as reported, were in Expectation of a Reinforcement of their best Troops; and of the first, as he cou'd by a proper Disposition deprive the Enemy of the Advantage of their Numbers.

The D. of *Aremberg's* Behaviour, on this Occasion, merits some Observation. He who owed his Reputation at Court and Command in the Army to the Countenance and Recommendation of *Stair*, now used the sinking Credit of his Benefactor as a Step to rise into his Master's Favour. This View dissolved all former Obligations, broke that Bond that should so particularly unite the Generals of an allied Army, and now manifested itself publicly by his Refusal at first to join his *Austrians* with the *British*, who were then drawn up in Order of Battle in Expectation of the *French*, and by not complying till these had been actually seven Hours on the Field.

The World will not be easily induced to believe that a *British* Army, who marched into the Empire to vindicate the Cause of a Princess,

Princess,

Princess, in which we had no immediate Concern, shou'd, in an Enterprize to assert that Cause, be refused to be joined by the Troops of that Princess. But the Fact is as notorious as it was insolent, and was a fatal Pre-sage of what the Army was to suffer from the Continuation of that Person another Campaign in the joint Command.

Forrage beginning to grow scarce, and none to be expected from the Country behind, thro' which the Army had pass'd, it was thought necessary to advance higher up on the *Main*, and to secure the Navigation of that River by Posts which commanded it, as well as to distress the *French*, who, in the same Circumstances, were meditating the same Design. For this Purpose a strong Detachment under G. C--n marched to seize *Alsbaffenburg*, who after a painful March succeeded, and was followed closely by the whole Army.

The Morning after its Arrival Ld. S. crossed the *Main* on the Stone-bridge at this Place to reconnoitre the Country, and fell in with the Head of the *French* Army, which kill'd one or two of the Detachment escorting him, and soon afterwards their whole Army appeared, and drew up in Order of Battle.

S---r, whose Handful of *British* and *Hanoverians* might perhaps have found it difficult to oppose their Passage of the River, had they attempted it in several Places, wrote to the D. of A--g in Terms to this Purpose. *That as the Interest of his Mistress was in Ques-*

tion, he desired to know if he would advance with his Troops. He, who had shown his Dislike to the Measure (because undertaken against his Opinion, by refusing to support it, and staying two Marches behind,) insolently returned for Answer, *That if his L---p had brought himself into a Scrape, it was his Business to get out of it as well as he cou'd.* Perhaps it was this Behaviour to the *British* General (worthy and venerable in himself, but still more so as he represented his Country) that sealed the Friendship of *A---g*, and our *G---r---n* Minister, that procured him the National Present of 40,000 *l.* as unprecedented as it was undeserved; and to sum up all, that tied up the Commander of the subsequent Campaign, to act but agreeable to his Approbation.

As the *French* had moved up so high, our March to *Aschaffenburg* was rendered of no Effect, without prosecuting the same Plan by seizing Posts still higher, and particularly *Worthum*, which has the singular Advantage of commanding a navigable River that falls a little above into the *Main*, and cou'd have supplied the Army from the Heart of *Francia*. But this the strong Opposition of many Generals (instructed in the peaceable Intent of our Minister) grounded on the Fatigue of the Troops, and the Expectation of his *M---y*, but chiefly the Want of the *Austrians*, prevented his *L---p* from executing upon the first Day of his Arrival at *Aschaffenburg*,

chaffenburg, and the last of his Power. For the next Day his M---y came, from which Moment his L---p's Authority and his Schemes fell together. For tho' his tried Abilities and Honesty, his Sufferings in the Cause of Liberty and the House of H---r, might well have intitled him to some Share of his M---y's Confidence and Affection, yet it soon became visible to the lowest in the Army that he had no Pretensions to either. Let those of his own Profession blush, (for such there were) who meanly endeavoured, by Falsties and Misrepresentations, to undermine him, in the Favour of a Gracious Master, who, honest himself, suspects no Representations of those about him to be inconsistent with Honesty. And let that Statesman learn Shame, who basely supplanted one, whose Schemes, as they differed from his, had nothing in View but the Interest of *Britain*, and a speedy End to a War, which, prosecuted with Vigour at the then critical Juncture, must have had a happy Event, and which protracted, must drain our exhausted Treasures, give *France* Leisure to breathe and practise those Arts, by which She never failed to prevail over us.

The first Attention of his M-----y was to restore Plenty to the Army. The Troops on their Arrival, from a long and expeditious March, finding no Provisions, plundered the Country for Subsistence; what they began thro' Necessity they continued through Wanton-

ness, ruining the Neighbouring Villages, and terrifying the distant ; they deprived the Markets of the Advantages of all, and necessarily occasioned a general Want. If it be asked why the Magazines of the Army were deficient, I leave the Answer to those who can best account for the Want of Waggon to transport the Provisions at *Hoechst* after the Army. This Want oblig'd the Parveyors (for at that Time the Contracts of Bread and Waggon were in different Hands) to use Boats, which wanting Horses to draw them against the Stream, had proceeded no farther than *Foanckfort* on Monday Noon, tho' the Army had reach'd *Aschaffenburg* by Sunday. If ever Abuse merited Enquiry this certainly does, that it may be known why of some Hundreds of Waggon provided, and dearly paid for by the Nation, not one was to be found in a Case of this Emergency ; that it may be known why the C-----y G-----l was so deficient in his Duty, as not to take care that all Contracts were strictly complied with ; that it may be known if the close Correspondence between that C-----y and that Contractor (who is now more largely concerned) does not savour so much of an undue Connection as is inconsistent with the Nature and Design of his Office, and the Good of the Service : But leaving the Cause to the Examination of those who can punish as well as remark, the Effect was, that the Army suffered severely. To this
the

the Dispositions of the *French* contributed not a little, who having a more numerous Army, and only the String, while we had the Bow of the River, stretched both above and below us, and mastered the Navigation of the *Main*. The Post of *Wortheim*, which they had not neglected to occupy, cut off our Communication from above, and Parties of their Hussars, passing about *Dettingen*, first disturbed, and afterwards entirely cut off our Correspondence with *Hanau* and *Francfort* below.

In this Situation a Retreat was resolved on, as well, because it was almost the only Expedient left, as because it brought us back to the ministerial Plan of wasting, in the Neighbourhood of *Hanau*, the Summer in shameful Inactivity, and of enriching the Prince of that Country with the Ducats of an Army of Observation.

Noailles, who foresaw this Motion as the Effect of Necessity, laid his Measures for disappointing it, and under Cover of his Parties, which cut off our Intelligence, laid several Bridges over the River at *SetinjinStadt*.

The Eve of our March (15th of *June*) the Tents were ordered to be struck at eight at Night, and no Noise, nor Fires to be kept in Camp; and at Day-break, next Morning, the *British*, who were on the Left next *Aschaffenburg*, marched past the *Hanoverians*, who re-placed them. Whether this unnecessary Motion was only to restore us to our
Post

Post on the Right, or whether (as was mentioned in the *London Gazette*) it was to have the *Hanoverians* (with whom his M---y chose to march) there, where only Danger and Honour were to be expected from the *French*, from *Aschaffenburg* in the Rear: But whatever the Cause, this was the Consequence, That the *French* who had possessed *Aschaffenburg* at seven in the Morning, and intended from thence to attack our Rear, thought our Counter-march the Consequence of that Design's being discovered, and remained unactive in the Town.

We continued to march till Five in the Morning, when Order was given to halt, which we did for four Hours in a Plain fronting the *Main*, with the Village of *Dettingen* about half a League on our Right Flank, and for which we could assign no Reason, but to give Time to his M-----y to review the *H-----ns*. While thus halted, we saw the *French* Army file down the other Side of the *Main*, ignorant of their Design, till informed by L-----t C-----l Gee, who commanded a Party in the Village of *Dettingen*, that they had pass'd, were formed, and marching up to us, to the Number of 30,000, and till saluted by several of their Batteries, which began to play as soon as their *Rear* was past; we were not long in Suspense, for they advanced, and made such a Disposition, as showed *Noailles* to be expert in his Profession.

sion. It had *Dettingen* on the Right, a Rivulet and Morass in the Centre, and a Wood on the Left. But whether trusting to superior Numbers, or undervaluing Troops, which, as they had never seen Action, they took to be raw and undisciplin'd, or whether expecting to find them unformed, they forsook their advantageous Situation, cross'd the Plain to meet us, by the Orders, as it was said, of the Duke *de Gramont*, perhaps to save *Noailles's* Reputation. They found their Disappointment to their Cost, for the Shortness of Time served but to furnish an Instance of S---'s Abilities, in forming his Troops for a proper Reception of the Enemy, not neglecting to possess the Wood on our Right, which the *French* had supinely overlooked.

Both Armies began to fire at a great Distance; a Proof that neither had seen much, and tho' on our Part particularly, firing never ceased, yet like a *Feu de Joy*, it was neither directed by Officers, nor regulated in Platoons, except among some few *Austrians*. From the first their Infantry began to give way, and at last, upon the Repulse of their Cavalry, fled in good Earnest. Their Cavalry gained some Reputation by their Success over ours, not owing to a Superior Valour in them, but a supine Negligence at least in our Generals (of whom only C---n was to be found in the hottest of the Action on the Left.) For the *French* easily foreseeing
ing

ing that without Address and proper Manœuvre, their Cavalry could never resist the Weight of ours, joined them all in one Body, with at least a double Depth, while no Care was taken on our Part to oppose this Disposition by making the like, but our Cavalry was suffered to remain drawn up in single Squadrons, by which Means they were defeated Squadron after Squadron, and would have met a Disaster equal to their Disgrace, if a vigorous Fire from the Infantry had not obliged their Pursuers to retire. Flushed with their Success, the Musquetairs attacked a *British* Brigade, but met with a Fate their Temerity deserved, in attacking Foot, while unbroken, and left behind them the Prisoners and Standards of the Day. While this happened in the Centre, two Field-pieces of the *Han-----ns*, from the Wood on the Right, firing with Cartouches, at the Rate of Ten Times in a Minute, did incredible Execution, and contributed not a little to the general Confusion and Retreat of the Enemy.

L---d S---, who knew how to prosecute an Advantage, as well as to obtain it, would have pursued the retiring Enemy with the Horse; but *Neiperg* alledging, we had better be contented with a Little, than hazard All, by aiming at more; insinuating, that the *French* had certainly made Dispositions to cover their Retreat, by Entrenchments and Batteries in the Village of *Dettingen*,

tingen, and that we had already performed our Parts in escaping the Danger, prevailed on his M-----y to stop S-----'s Design, and to encamp on the Field of Battle. From the Fact thus stated, every one may draw his Reflexions, and ascribe this Advice of Mr. *Neiperg*, either to want of Ability, or want of Honesty; for tho' Measures, ever so prudent, had been taken to secure their Retreat, nothing can excuse the neglecting to make, at least, the Appearance of a Pursuit, in order to increase the Terror and Confusion that is the constant Attendant on a vanquished Army; and in this Case, that Neglect was particularly inexcusable, as there was a River to pass, into which many must have been pushed, and into which, even unpursued as they were, many threw themselves and perished.

The Advantages of the Battle thus, in a manner, shamefully rejected, S-----r, whose Zeal for the public Good, no Disregard for his Counsels or Person could slacken, e'er he forsook the Field, sent an Aid du Camp to know his M-----'s Pleasure, and receive his Orders about his unhappy brave Countrymen, wounded and dead on the Field. H-----y, General of the Day, returned for Answer, from the King, that proper Care should be taken of both: He himself, undoubtedly, charged with its Execution; yet, next Morning, the Army marched without the least Care thought of for either; left

our dying Countrymen to the Humanity of the *French*, and to them a fair Pretence of disputing the Honour of the Day. This I mention the rather, as it affects one whose *Spanish* Education, had brought his naturally four Disposition, to every Degree of Rigour in Points of Discipline, with regard to others, and who was yet so notoriously deficient himself, in a Point which every General, in every Age, however despicable his Capacity, or minute his Command, has always made his first Care immediately consequent to a Battle, whether its Event was Unhappy or Fortunate. This Day fell General C-----n, as lamented as he was deservedly beloved, and the Duke of C----d, who bravely flesht his Maiden Sword, and gave many Proofs of that Courage and Judgment, which will one Day greatly serve his Country, was wounded in the Leg.

I must not forget the careful and prudent Measures taken by General I---n, for preserving the Rear-Guard committed to his Orders, and consisting of the Brigade of *British* Foot Guards, those of *Lunenburgh*, and some Squadrons of Horse in Proportion. He, instead of remaining where he might answer the Purpose of his Command, or, if that was no more necessary, of joining the Line with so strong a Reinforcement of the best Infantry, as soon as the Batteries began to fire, moved to the Right among Hills and Woods; and was actually at the Commencement of the

the Battle, upon a Hill on the Right Flank of the Army, altho' from thence he could discern the Army engaged with the *French*, altho' there he could be of no earthly Service; yet no Entreaties of the Duke of *M-----b*, no Prayers of the Officers, nor Alacrity and loud Demands of the Soldiers of his brave Brigade, could prevail on him to quit his secure Situation, to descend and share in the Honour of the Day. But because the Honour could not be separated from the Danger, he neglected that Opportunity of attacking the Enemy in Flank, and of assuring, without Doubt, a then uncertain Victory. Let me mention the Command given to this Man, as one Instance, among many, of a Partiality, and which I would not have touched on at all, if the Heart-burnings it raised abroad, and the Noise it made at home, had not been too remarkable to suffer it to pass in Silence; but I shall no longer dwell on it, since *Britons*, for their own Sakes, should throw a Veil over it, as its Remembrance can only tend to weaken our Affections for that Family with which our Happiness, and the very Being of our Constitution, is so closely connected.

The Army marched next Day after the Engagement in Order of Battle, and encamped between *Hanau* and *Frankfort*, and some few Days afterwards the *French* came and encamped on the opposite Side of the River.

One Opportunity of ruining the Enemy being thus lost, S-----r proposed to his Ma-----y another, by seizing *Hoechst*, and passing the Army there, to cut off their Retreat to the *Rhine*, which he foresaw must soon happen, as *Broglie* was then flying before Prince *Charles*. This Proposition his L-----p pushed a second Time, by G-----l L-----r, but pushed it in vain; for we were doom'd to waste six long Weeks in shameful Inaction, and to suffer the *French* to decamp before our Faces, and retire to the *Rhine* unmolested and unpursued. That the latter part of the Season might not be spent to as little Purpose as the foregoing, and so fine an Army not remain unemployed, S-----r continued to propose other Schemes, as to propose entering *France* by the *Moselle*, or by embarking the Infantry, Artillery, and Baggage on the *Rhine*, to proceed with the utmost Expedition to *Flanders*, where the Enemy had no Army, and every Garrison had been thinned to furnish Troops for the Defence of *Alsace*. But this Proposal met the Fate of all the former. It need not be asked by whose Means, since, at that Time, the whole Management of Affairs was in the Hands of a Minister, who disdain'd even to consult his Masters, the Regency of G-----t B-----n. Let me leave it to the World to wonder, (if the Progress of his Administration has not taught them to wonder at nothing) why he who bawls so loud for vigorous

rous

pos Measures at home, should oppose them abroad ; why he, who, to act in Contradiction to the pacific Schemes of his Predecessor, was the Author of sending an Army to the Continent, should be the sole Author of the Inactivity of that very Army.

Instead of these Schemes, reasonable in themselves, and promising apparent Advantages in their Consequences, another was resolved on, from which nothing could be expected : This was to follow the *French* into the *Palatinate*, as if they could be attacked with greater Facility behind Lines, which had been the Work of Ages, and were strong by Nature and Art, than pursued when broken and in Confusion. Prosecuting this Scheme the Army passed the *Rhine*, on a Bridge of Boats, at *Biberich*, below *Mentz*, and marched to *Worms*, where *S---*, in a Memorial to the *K---*, begg'd Dismission from the Name, since unattended with the Authority of a General, from a Command in which he could do his Country no Service, as his Advices, seldom asked, were never regarded, and himself vested not with the Power of rewarding Merit, or gratifying a Friend with even an Ensign's Commission: In Consequence of this, he there left us to mourn the Loss of a Commander, whose good Qualities rendered him as amiable, as his great ones did valuable ; but too honest to live in such Times, or serve under such Ministers. His Example was soon after followed

followed by the Duke of *M---b---gb*, who had not forgot his Disappointment at *Dettingen*, and whose humane and brave Virtues had gained the Hearts of the Soldiers, only to make his Loss the more sensibly felt.

During the Halt at *Worms*, *Neipergh* never ceased to importune the *K---g*, and to insist at every Council of War, on attacking *Noailles* behind the Lines of *Germerheim*: But past Experience had, by this Time, convinced his *Ma---y* that his Advices were no more to be followed; and, no Wonder, his Insinuation had no Weight with the Assembly of Generals, since no Reason can account for his proposing that Attempt, but this, that he who saved the *French*, when broken and flying at *Dettingen*, continued to prosecute the same Principles, by endeavouring to ruin the Allies in *Alsace*.

Advice being brought in by *Mentzel*, that *Noailles* had quitted these Lines to move up higher in *Alsace*, in order to support *Coigny*, who was apprehensive *Prince Charles* might succeed in his Design of passing the *Rhine*, we pursued our March from *Worms* to *Spires*, and encamped beyond the *Spirebach*. Here the *Dutch* sent to the Assistance of the Queen, first rolled in Duty with the Grand Army, in a Detachment sent to demolish the Lines above-mentioned. These Lines lye between *Germerheim* and *Landau*, separating *Alsace* from the *Palatinate*, and are by Nature so very strong, that our Demolition, as it was called,

called, could do them very little Damage. They have on the Right the *Rhine*, and a broad Fish-pond, between which two runs the narrow Road from *Spires*, defended by three Barricades before them; in the Centre is a Valley overflowed by the *Queich*, and behind an Eminence commanding the Country towards *Spires*; on the Left is the strong Town of *Landau*, and Trees cut down and thrown a-cross for about two Leagues; add to these the River *Queich*, and a Ditch which the *Freneb* had dug, and we had filled up, and which they can open again in forty-eight Hours.

This great Work performed, our Leaders began to think on what could be done farther, and to find out that an Army without Cannon, as ours was, could do little in a Country which had *Landau* in Flank, and the Lines of *Lauterburg* and *Strasburg* in Front; and, consequently, that the March thither was of no Effect, and the best Part of the Campaign lost in doing nothing; add to this the Approach of bad Weather and the Month of *October*, rendered Thoughts of Winter Quarters necessary, and several Councils of War were held on that Subject; in all which the *Austrian* Generals would have kept the Army during the Winter where it was. But a different Climate at such a Distance from *England*, not being so agreeable to ours, Orders were given to prepare for *Flanders*.

ers. The King left us at *Worms* on our March back, and the Army separated at *Wisebaden*, and marched, in several Divisions, by the following Route: From *Wisebaden* to *Nassau*, *Vallendar*, *Andernach*, *Briesch*, *Mehenheim*, *Fuscbereben*, *Dueren*, *Eischmiller*, *Aix la Chapelle*, *Maestricht*, *Tongres*, *St. Tran*, *Tirlemont*, *Louvain*, to their respective Garrisons of *Brussels*, *Ghent* and *Bruges*. Little more than half the Army came back to *Flanders*; the rest perished by Diseases, occasioned by Intemperance, and the miserable Treatment in the Hospitals.

Before I begin with the Campaign 1744, it will be necessary to mention, that, in the preceeding Winter, War was declared by *France* against *England*, which made ours a Principal instead of an Auxiliary Army, and that Mr. *W-de* was declar'd Field-Marshal and Commander in Chief of the *British* Forces in *Flanders* (with a Power to fill up all Commissions, under Colonels) as *A--g* was of those of the Queen in that Country. If, in the following, the Reader finds more minute and trifling Particulars than in the foregoing Pages, he must excuse it, since, during the whole Course of this Campaign, nothing great was performed, attempted, or designed; and all our Cares and Councils directed not how to employ, but how to maintain the Army.

The Generals in Chief could not find the
Art

Art to preserve Unanimity till the Opening of the Campaign, even before they began to differ in Opinion, regardless of that Concert, and Cordiality which should have been their chief Study to improve. Each proposing different Schemes, obstructed the effectual Execution of any; and thro' the whole of the Campaign, it was very perceptible that one never yielded to the Proposals of the other, but with all the Air of Backwardness and Constraint. From an Army so headed, what could be expected but the Consequences which followed, but the disconcerted Marches and shameful Sojournings that I was an unhappy Sharer in, and every brave *Englishman* must blush for.

As I mentioned different Schemes of our Leaders, it is but just I should hint what they were, least it should be suspected that no Scheme was thought on at all. That of *Aremberg* then was to cover the Province of *Hainault*, by assembling the Army in the Neighbourhood of *Mons*, which the *French* affected to threaten with a Siege; and I have not Charity enough to think the Duke lost View of his own Estate, which lies on the Frontiers of that Province. Mr, *W—e*, on the other Hand, kept his Eye upon *Flanders*, and opposed drawing the Army out of that Country, which *France* had more Interest to attack, and *Britain* to defend. Notwithstanding the Reasons enforcing this Measure,

D

fure,

May 13th
and 14th.

sure, *Arenberg* carried his Point so far, that the *British* garrisoned in *Ghent* and *Bruges*, assembled at *Anderlight*, near *Brussels*, on the 13th of *May*, and joined the *Hanoverians*, who had marched there from their several Winter Quarters.

May.

The *French* King, in the mean time, with the Marshals *Noailles* and *Saxe*, assembled an Army on the Plains of *Cisjoin*, and by that Means kept his Intentions undiscovered, as he was equally ready to attack the Frontiers of *Hainault* and *Flanders*. He chose the latter, and, happy for us, he had resolved on besieging, and not Fighting; for had he marched towards our small Army, of little more than 30,000 Men, with, at least, treble our Number, he must have driven us to the Gates of *Breda*, while the Country behind must have fallen to him of Course.

18th.

On the 18th a Courier, from the Governor of *Oudenarde*, brought Information that the *French* had taken Possession of *Courtray*; this threw us all into a great Consternation, and raised Apprehensions, not for the Frontiers only, but even the Heart of *Flanders*; and occasioned a Detachment of three Regiments of Dragoons, and six Companies of Grenadiers, to be sent off immediately under L——t G——l *Campbell*, to secure *Ghent*, which the Want of

of Garrison, and *French* Influence, gave Reason to fear was in great Danger.

Next Day the whole Army followed, and encamped between *Afche* and *Albst*, the former being the Head Quarters, and was there joined three Days afterwards by four Battalions, ten Companies of Grenadiers, and ten Squadrons of *Austrians*, and by six Battalions and sixteen Squadrons of *Dutch*, in all about 9000 Men, which we were told were all we must expect, notwithstanding *Aremberg* had undertaken, when in *England*, to bring 16000 of the Troops of his Mistress's into the Field. The Remainder of the 20,000 *Dutch*, were employed in strengthening the Garrisons of *Mons*, *Aeth*, *Charleroi*, and *Menin*.

Here we were informed the *French* had sat down before *Menin*, the besieging Army headed by the King and *Noailles*, and the Covering by Count *Saxe*.

Count *Saxe* having attempted to surprize *Oudenarde* and still hovering near it, Baron *Couriere* was detached on the twenty-ninth with six Companies of Grenadiers, and the Regiments of *Stirum* and *Ligne*, all *Austrians*, to cover it till the Arrival of the Army, and two Days afterwards General *Sommerfeldt*, with four Battalions and three Squadrons of *British*, three Battalions and three Squadrons of *Hanoverians*, two Squadrons of *Dutch*, two

19th.

23d.

29th.

31st.

Pieces of *British* Cannon, of 6 *lib.* and six of *Hanoverian* of 3 *lib.* took the same Route. and encamped on the *Scheld* by *Ename*.

June 1st. On the first of *June* the Army left the Camp of *Asche*, the *Austrians* and *Dutch* marching by *Ninove*, the *British* and *Hanoverians* passing the *Dender*, the first at *Alost*, the latter at *Ermodeghem*, encamped near *Borsteke* where was the Head

2d. Quarters. Next Day the March was continued in one Column, and the Army occupied a Camp with its Right at *Marie Lautem*, its left at *Velsick*, and the Head Quarters at the *Cheateau* of *Berlegbam*.

4th. The first Care was to recal *Sommerfeldt's* Detachment to the Line, to lay Bridges over the *Scheld* at *Gavre*, to make a Head to these Bridges, and to post a sufficient Guard to defend it; while we were thus employed the *French* were bu-
fied at the Siege of *Menin*, which surrendered to them on the fourth, after three Days of open Trenches: An Occurrence so unexpected struck us with Amazement, since no Reason could account for so weak Resistance of so strong a Fortress, the Master-Piece of *Vauban*, the greatest Engineer of these latter Ages. If the Smallness of Garrison occasioned its hasty Surrender, What Excuse can the *Dutch* alledge for providing so ill, a Town so important, as to be justly called the Key of *Flanders*, unless they had

con-

consented it should be taken; and indeed their sending an Embassador extraordinary to the *French* King then commanding an Army battering their Barrier, had such an Air of Security and Tameness as might well render a secret Understanding suspected.

Altho' the Capitulation was signed on the 4th, yet I can aver, that on the 7th we were in absolute Uncertainty about the Fate of the Town, which was but an ill Presage of the Conduct of Generals who could not find the Art to procure Intelli-^{June.} gence of a Transaction at seven Leagues Distance in three Days Time, and particularly of *Aremberg*, a Native of the Country.

On the ninth we were joined by the Additionals to the Cavalry, and^{9th.} by the Members of Parliament from *England*, and remained on the same Ground till the twenty-second, when it was thought proper to change the Situation, and encamp along the *Scheld* in one Line, whereof the Right, composed of what was before the first Line, lay between *Vurste* and the Mill of *Gavre*; and the Left, composed of the second Line, from thence to *Meyleghem*. The *Hanoverians* encamped separately on our Left in one Line likeways, stretching from *Ermlegbem* to *Ename* Abbey. At the Abbey began the *Austrian* Encampment, extending to *Oudenarde*, and that of the *Dutch* from *Oudenarde* to *Melden*. Being thus situated to defend

defend the Passage of the *Seheld*, our next Care was to be conveniently supplied with Forage; for this Purpose, as our Magazines were at such Distance from us as *Ghent*, the Country furnished Waggon to the Number, I think, of three *per* Battalion, and six or seven *per* Squadron.

Our Inactivity here was from the beginning disagreeable to the Duke of *A---g*, for which I can no more assign a Reason than for any other of his Measures; perhaps the immense Expence of the Waggon, Wood, and Straw, furnished the Troops at the Queen's Cost, made him push to remove out of her Country; perhaps a Desire to enjoy the Sweets of Contribution in that of the Enemy's, in which he might benefit as well as his Mistress; perhaps even an Intention to seek the Enemy, prompted his Inclination to march, where his own Troops could suffer so little, because so few, and the Brunt he had born by those under the *British* General; Mr. *W---e*, on the other Hand, would by no Means change a Situation which secured his little Army, and particularly objected against seeking the Enemy, because it is unreasonable to expect Success against great Inequality of Numbers, and because the *Dutch* and the Queen fell so much short of their Contingent, and had not above 9000 Troops in the Field.

But

But tho' we were idle, the *French* were not ; from the Conquest of *Mémin*, they proceeded to the Siege of *Ipres*, and by one of those whimsical Reverses that Fortune delights in, on the Anniversary of the Victory at *Dettingen*, (*June 27th*) we were informed of the Loss of that strong and important Place, on the Day before, after ten Days open Trenches. Some few Days afterwards brought Account of the Surrender of Fort *Knock*, and *Furnes*. As if the Governours of these several Fortresses, had conspired to keep each other in Countenance, by shameful Defences.

On the fifth of *July* three Regiments, which his Majesty had been pleased to send us from *England*, came to *Ghent*, (a fourth staying to reinforce *Ostend*.) Yet this did not avail so much to raise our drooping Spirits, as did the Assurances then received that the *States General*, roused by the Progress of the *French*, and the Loss of their Barrier, had ordered to march immediately to our Assistance, eleven Battalions and twenty two Squadrons, and the Garrisons to be drained of as many of the 20,000 formerly voted to assist the Queen, as cou'd be conveniently spared for the same End.

On the Ninth we expressed our Satisfaction at Pr. *Charles's* Passage *July 9th.* of the *Rhine* by a *Feu de Joy*, and a few Days afterwards Major General *Soubiron* was

was detach'd from the Line with the Battalions of *Sowle*, *Bligh* and *Brag*, and three *Hanover* Regiments, and encamped on the Height of *Kessler* above *Oudenarde*.

16th.

They were replaced by the three new Regiments from *England*, and by the *Highlanders*, who now first joined the Army from their Garrison at *Ostend*. General *Campbell* likewise with the Detachment before-mentioned to have been sent with him to *Ghent*, marched from thence, and occupied a Camp

18th.

near *Merelebeke*. Our Army thus daily encreasing, Councils of War were held, to find out Employment for it, in Consequence of one of which, the Quarter Master General reconnoitred the Ground on our Side the *Scheld* to *Tournay*, but as no further Step was taken, we must suppose this *Embrio* Scheme, like many others, smothered in the Birth.

23d.

The 23d was distinguish'd by a Party of our Hussars attacking the Grand Guard of the *French* at *Courtrai*, killing fifteen, and bringing off ten Horses and the Captain commanding.

About this Time Prince *Charles's* surprising Success in *Alsace* produced almost as great an Alteration of Affairs on our Scene of Action, as on his. It occasioned the March of the King of *France* with 40,000 of the Flower of their Troops, leaving Count *Saxe* to oppose our Army with one every Way inferior

ferior. While the Enemy diminished, we increased, by the *Dutch* Succours, who joined the Camp daily. Notwithstanding which, there were many who showed no Joy at this seeming Turn of the Balance, doubting the Sincerity of a People, who, while they were sending Troops to us, were sending Ambassadors to *France*, (for about this Time Mr. *Wafenaer* made his second Journey) and distrusting the Instructions of such Pacific Masters.

Count *Saxe*, tho' much inferior in Number, never ceased to send Parties from behind the *Lys*, to the very Borders of the *Scheld*, as well to observe our Motions, as to enforce the Payment of the Contribution by him demanded from the interjacent Country. On a Rumour of the Approach of one of these Parties, the Picquets of our Infantry assembled on the 25th, at *Gavre*, under General *Ligonier*, and two or three ^{25th.} marching a-cross the River, made a little Tour without meeting any. This Example our unenterprizing General scorned to follow, and the whole Time we lay behind the *Scheld*, no one *British*, or *Hanover* Party, once crossed that River ! The *Hussars* indeed sometimes made Excursions, and defeated, on the twenty-eighth, a Party of *French*, who had the Temerity to approach the Banks of the *Scheld*, opposite to *Nedir Ename*.

E

Our

Our Army at last joined by most of the Troops expected, and Messengers upon Messengers arriving from *England*, with Orders to rouse our Leaders from Lethargy, *July 29th.* and to stimulate them on to Action, the Quarter Masters Generals crossed the *Scheld*, on the twenty-ninth of *July*, to reconnoitre Ground for an Encampment, and on the thirty-first, the whole Army followed in eight Columns, three of the *British* at *Gavre*, two of the *Hanoverians* in Front of their Camp, one of the *Austrians* at *Ename* Abbey, one of the *Dutch* thro' *Oudenarde*, and one near *Berkham*; Over two of the *British* Bridges marched the two Lines of *Infantry*, and over the third, that in the Middle, marched the whole Cavalry, each Column followed by its own Baggage, and that of the Cavalry by the Artillery, and the Rear was brought up by the three Regiments of Dragoons, encamped at *Merelebeke*, and all encamped in Order of Battle on the Plains of *Hearne*, with the Head Quarters at *Axilwalle*, to which the Right of the Cavalry joined. Next Day the *Dutch* from *England* under *Somitzaert* joined the Army. On the third of *August*, the Army moved again by the Left, in two Columns, whereof the first, composed of the first Line and its Baggage, marched thro' *Overtures* made on the left Flank, and the second of the second Line, its Baggage, and Artillery,

Artillery, took the great Road of *Oudenarde* to *Tournay*, and encamped with the Right about *Kerkbove*, and the Left towards *Hillichin*, the Head Quarters the *Chateau* of *Rok-eghem* near *Esfighem*. From thence on the fourth Day, the Quarter Masters Generals went to reconnoitre the Borders of the *Lys*, and the Neighbourhood of *Courtrai*, and reported the Country too close and cut for encamping, and furnishing too little Water; on which, Thoughts of marching directly thither were laid aside, and a Council of War held on the fifth, in which it was resolved, to march higher up, and attempt a Passage between *Lisse* and *Menin*, and fall down upon Count *Saxe*, between *Menin* and *Ypres*, on which Side his Camp was entirely open, for it was only covered in Front by *Courtrai* and the *Lys*, and on the Right and Rear by the *Heule*. In Consequence of this, we marched next Day by the Left, in three Columns, one of the Artillery and Baggage by the Causeway of *Tournay*, and the other two by Roads made by Pioneers in the Country, and encamped beyond *Pont Es-pieres*, with the Head Quarters at *Chateau la Bie*.

Next Day being the seventh, hearing that Count *Saxe* had pass'd the *Lys*, and apprehending his Intention to be, to prevent the Execution of our intended Enterprize, (whereas he only designed to disturb our Rear, or Baggage, in case all had not pass'd *Pont Es-*

pieres.) At two o' Clock, three Cannon fired, as a Signal to recal all Foragers and Straglers, and at Four the Army began to march in the same Manner, as the preceding Day, towards *Tournay*. During the Night, the first Column broke into the second, by which Accident, it did not arrive under the Walls of *Tournay* till Two in the Afternoon next Day, tho' the other arrived early in the Morning, which Blunder, in the Captain of the Guides, might have been of fatal Consequence, had the Enemy been near, and as it was, occasioned so great a Delay, and shows that too much Caution and Care cannot be taken, in chusing proper Persons for exercising that Function.

The 8th the Army continued on their Arms till three in the Afternoon, when it marched again, the Right-wing by the Causeway from *Tournay* to *Lisle*, in two Columns, followed by the Artillery and Baggage, and arrived by Midnight, on the Borders of the *Marque*, where it encamped, and the Marshal quartered at *Luchin*; the Left-wing, having a shorter Way, continued their March directly over the *Marque* by *Pont a Bourvine*. The Right-wing halted the Ninth, and passed the *Marque* on the next Day.

Now every one's Expectation was raised, thinking the Time at last come, when something was to be done worthy the Army assembled together, worthy the Cause engaged

gaged in, and worthy the Nations that delegated us to fight their Battles. But, alas! the Passage of the *Lys* seemed no more to be thought on, and the concerted Scheme to be laid aside. As each of our Chiefs threw the Blame on the other, I shall leave it to their Masters to decide and to punish, and can only remark, that we not only lost the Opportunity of ruining the Army, but of taking *Lisle*, even without Cannon as we were, since the Garrison, that consisted but of two Battalions of Militia, and one of Regular Troops, was too small to furnish even necessary Guards for their Ports, and as a few Bombs and red-hot Bullets must have raised the Burghers to force a Surrender. *Saxe*, who had drained the Garrison to reinforce his Army, apprehensive of an Attack, trembled at our Situation, and sent a Detachment to strengthen the Town, almost in Despair to be able to throw it in. But it entered on the Eleventh, without our endeavouring to obstruct it. The Generals of the Left Wing ascribed the Loss of this Opportunity to the Halt of the Right one Day behind the *Marque*: *W---e*, on the other hand, asserted he was still ready to attack the Enemy, according to the Plan proposed and agreed to, alledged the Probability of Success from the Superiority of Numbers, and the Shame of continuing inactive with so fine an Army. But now he was incapacitated to do any thing,

thing, but remonstrate; tied down as he was by Orders, to make no Motion, to take no Step, without the Agreement, Consent, and Conjunction of *Aremberg*. He, on the other hand, seemed to have carried his Point, was in the Enemy's Country, and in a Condition to supply the Army with Forage, and himself with Contribution. Permit me here to remove to the Cabinet, and bring Statesmen into the Question, to inquire for what Reason the Army was unattended by heavy Artillery, to profit on the Consequence of any Battle by the Attack of Places, and mastering of Countries, for, without that, a Victory can be little desirable, since attended only by an empty Glory and Destruction of Mankind, and deprived of those Advantages for which it is fought; to inquire why an Army was sent to act in the *Low Countries* before it was settled who was to defray the Expence of Sieges, and, consequently, whether they are not subject to Blame who put the Nation to a certain monstrous Expence, without even the Chance of an Advantage, as I have already said, a meer Victory is none.

But, to return to our Camp of *Anstain*, as it was called from the Head Quarters, it lay with the Right at *Tressin*, the Centre at *St. Gbin*, and the Left at *Frettin*. The Infantry of the Right Wing was encamped on a fine spacious open Plain, and the

the
a Fi
Nun
in I
had
mig
by 3
as a
ter-
it w
- A
nem
Hol
selve
Nei
but
Stop
Car
Can
on
that
T
of
two
take
wh
vain
mu
the
Fie
Fif

the Cavalry, next the Enemy, crowded into a Field not capable of containing half their Number, if encamped regularly, with Woods in Front and Flank, from which (if *Saxe* had had proper Intelligence) the Whole might have been ruined in any one Night, by 300 Foot. This Disposition let me give as an Instance of the Abilities of our Quarter-Master-General, with an Assurance that it was worthy the rest of his Performances.

As we were now, for the first time, in the Enemies Countries, the Soldiers (particularly the *Hollanders* and *Hanoverians*) thinking themselves at Liberty to ravage at Pleasure, laid the Neighbouring Country and Villages desolate; but this, by a timely Severity, was put a Stop to. As, on our quitting the *Scheld*, no Care was taken for its Defence, nor for the Canal of *Bruges*, General *Launy* was detached on the Eleventh, with 1500 Cavalry, for that Purpose.

The small Town of *Lanoi*, at the Distance of one League and an half from us, between us and *Menin* and Count *Saxe*, was taken Possession of by our free Companies, which a Party from *Courtrai* endeavour'd, in vain, to dispossess.

Thoughts of Business being laid aside, Amusement was resolved on, for which End the Army drew up in Order of Battle, on a Field marked in Front of the Camp, on the Fifteenth, and the Generals in Chief rode along

long the Lines... The Appearance was indeed magnificent, but served only to increase the Chagrine of the honest and the brave, that so fine Troops should be employed to so little Purpose. They consisted, in the Whole, of seventy-one Battalions, One hundred and fourteen Squadrons, six free Companies, and twelve Squadrons of Hussars; of which twenty-two Battalions, and twenty-nine Squadrons were *British*, thirteen Battalions, and thirty-one Squadrons *Hanoverian*; eight Battalions, and ten Squadrons *Austrian*; and twenty-eight Battalions, and forty-four Squadrons were *Dutch*. Having given the Sum of the Whole, let me descend to the Particulars of the *British*: Of which were,

In the First Line

Hawley's }
Stair's } Dragoons.
Bland's }

Horse Guards }
Blues } Horse.

1 }
 3 } Batt. Foot Guards. Infantry.
 2 }

Royal

Royal	}	<i>British Infantry.</i>
Bligh		
Cholmondeley		
Brag		
Sowle		
Barrel		
Huske		
Skelton		
Poultney		

In the Second Line.

Gray's	}	<i>Dragoons.</i>
Cope's		
Rich's		

Honeywood's	}	<i>Horse.</i>
Ligonier's		

L. G. Howard	}	<i>British Infantry.</i>
Campbell		
Fleming		
Handasyde		
Duroure		
Onslow		
Ratbes		
Johnson		
M. G. Howard		

Under Mr. Wade, Field Marshal, and Honeywood, General of the Horse.

The First Line of Cavalry was led by,

1. Lieut. Gen. *Campbell*,
3. Maj. Gen. *Albemarle*,
1. Brig. *Bland*, and
2. Brig. *Crawford*.

First Line of Infantry,

2. Lieut. Gen. *Ligonier*,
2. Maj. Gen. *Wentworth*,
6. Maj. Gen. *Poultenev*,
8. Maj. Gen. *Campbell*,
3. Brigad. *Churchill*,
4. Brigad. *Skelton*.

The Second Line of Cavalry by

3. Lieut. Gen. *Hawley*,
4. Maj. Gen. *Roths*,

Second Line of Infantry,

1. Maj. Gen. *St. Clair*,
5. Maj. Gen. *Onslow*,
7. Maj. Gen. *Howard*,
5. Brigad. *Ingolsby*.

The Staff was compos'd of Brigadier *Bland*,
Quarter-master General, and two Deputies,
Col. *Duroure*, Adjutant General,
Col. *Cockayne*, Depute Adjutant General
and Depute Judge Advocate,
Mr. *Hume*, Commiss. G. and one Deputy,
Col. *Robinson*, Captain of the Guides.

I hope

I hope it will not be thought impertinent, if I attempt a short Sketch of some of the Characters in the foregoing List, leaving that of the General in chief untouched, since no new Action here has added new Merit, and since every one is very well acquainted with what he had before.

Of *H----*, I shall only say, that his Manners are more open than delicate, but he possesses in a stronger Degree, the Virtues of the Heart, than those of the Head; that his Bravery will never fail at the Head of a Squadron; but his Advice little enlighten a Council of War, or improve the Disposition of a Battle.

Of *G-----* *C-m-l*, I need not say much, since he is so well known to the World, for all the amiable Qualities that endear the Man, and all the brave ones that exalt the Soldier. I should not do Justice to *L---ier*, without declaring his Address and Politeness, equal to his Ability, without declaring that Choice made with Judgment, which assigned him the Superintendency of the Infantry.

H-l-y, the last of this superior Class of Generals, if not a good Soldier, studies to be thought so, by his Severity of Manners, and Strictness of Discipline; yet it is a Question, whether his Rigour proceeds from a Zeal for the Service, or a Sourness of Temper; from a Desire to rectify, or a Delight

to blame, as there are those, who think him better pleased, in finding those beneath him in Fault, than in doing their Duty, and escaping his Censure.

I can say nothing of our M. Generals, as none is old enough to have distinguish'd himself last War, and none has had Opportunity of doing it in this; looking on them therefore as *Tyro's*, as well as myself, who came abroad to learn, more than to command; I leave it to the Tryal of some future Action, to call forth their Merit, and determine their Characters.

The Brigadiers fall within the same Rule, except *L---d C---f---d*, who has hunted after military Knowledge, in every Corner of *Europe*, and wants but Occasion to exercise in the Service of his Country, that Experience which he purchased with almost his Life.

The Importance of his Function requires some Notice of the *Q---r M---r G---l*, who certainly merits all the Praise, that Zeal and good Intention can claim; but in a *Q---r M---r G---l* Ability is a Qualification as requisite as Honesty. A constant Hurry and Self-diffidence are Marks of one not cut out for Business, nor consequently fit for this laborious, and weighty Employment. It was besides, more his Misfortune than Blame, to have wanted Assistants capable of relieving his Case, and sharing his Trouble. Tho' his Office does not entitle *C. D---e* to a Place,

Place, his Manners and Situation do. Tho' the Ad——te G——l might pass unobserved, the Deputy F——d M——l must be mentioned; he must be mentioned as one, who, by the fawning Arts of his Country, had gained the Ear, and directed the Actions of W——, and exercised the Authority arising from this Influence with all the Insolence of those who rise into Office from Dung-hills. The Hate of the Army he procured to himself, by his ungainly Manners, and to the M——l by his Advices. Let me leave it to the World, to judge what Expectations cou'd be entertained, from the Operations of an Army when all Councils were intrusted to, or framed by an Upstart of that very Nation, against which we were making War. To him may properly succeed, Co——l C. his Deputy, remarkable for his many Places, but still more so, for his Merit in deserving them.

The rest of the Staff, I shall forbear to speak of, being in themselves and Offices, too inconsiderable to merit the Reader's Attention, or my Notice. But to return from this Digression to journalize the Trifles, that occupied the Remainder of the Month; On the Nineteenth, a Colonel and 500 Men, from the Right Wing, reliev'd the free Companies in *Lanoi*, who went to take Possession of *Orchies*. On the twenty-fourth, a Party of 50 *Hussars*, and 70 Infantry, defeated a *French* Escort of 300 Cavalry, and brought

brought off the commanding Officer, and 13 Men killed, and 22 wounded, with the Loss of one. On the 22^d, 26th and 30th, the Right Wing foraged on the Right of *Lisse*, about *Croix Rabaixbe*.

At this Time, a Camp was marked near *Orchies*, and Roads prepared for the March of the Army thither, but this half-begotten Scheme perished, like many others, before Execution; and a Detachment of 300 Men was sent to reinforce *Launy's* Command, on the Canal of *Bruges*; but this Body being still infinitely too inconsiderable, to defend such an Extent of Country, *Count Saxe* made a proper Use of so fair an Occasion, sent a strong Army, under *Prince de Pons*, which easily forced a Passage over the Canal, penetrated into the Country of *Waes*, and brought off an immense Quantity of Forage and Contribution; our Generals found themselves obliged to do what Reason might have told them, should have been done at first, to detach eight Battalions, fourteen Squadrons, eight Pieces of Cannon, and eight Pontoons, under *Chandos* and *Smitzaert* Lt. Generals, and *St. Clair* Major General, on the Ninth of *August*, to clear that Country of the *French*, and secure it against their Attempts for the future.

About this Time, a Spirit of Desertion spread itself among the Men, nourished by the Levy of a new Regiment, in the *French* Service,

Servi
for C
time
Exa
al, p
F
were
Lisse
nies,
W
Mee
ing
on t
Lan
the
about
Field
Ba
Seve
Gua
Tim
The
on
Hed
com
the
poin
adv
pro
had
ot t
Bod

Service, by the Passports furnished by them, for Conveyance to *Britain*, and by the ill-timed Lenity of the Marshal; but one or two Examples of immediate Execution after Trial, put an effectual Stop to the whole.

Forage on the Right being consumed, we were obliged to have Recourse to the Left of *Lisle*, and the Villages of *Avelin*, *Wategnies*, &c.

We continued to show the same Spirit of Meekness here, as at *Berlegem*, never sending Parties to molest the Enemy, while they on the other hand, regardless of our Post at *Lanoi*, approached our very Camp, and on the Twelfth, took forty of our Train Horses, about half a League from our Camp, in a Field adjoining the Causeway of *Tournay* at *Basieu*, where we had a Post. And on the Seventeenth, as we constantly relieved the Guard at *Lanoi*, each 48 Hours, at a certain Time, they laid an Ambush to intercept it. They posted their Men in a thick Copse on one Side of the Road, and behind a Hedge on the other. Colonel R—s, who commanded our Party, receiv'd Notice of the Ambush, e'er he approached it, and appointed a Subaltern, and thirty Men as an advanced Guard, to fire if attacked, and promised to come up and support him, but had very unluckily permitted his own Chariot to go between the advanced, and main Body, and had sent, but one Serjeant and twelve

twelve Men to beat the Hedges on the Flanks. This Serjeant and his Command, having gone on the Outside of the Ambush, it lay undiscovered, till it fired on the advanced Guard, which returned them on Platoon. But the Chariot turning back to save itself, broke the main Body entirely, and put it into absolute Confusion, by which means, the advanced Party was all killed and taken. *Reynolds* rallied his Men as soon as possible, and by the Advice of his Officers, retreated about a Mile to the Church-Yard of *Hemm*, from whence he sent to acquaint the Marshal with what had pass'd. The Marshal thereupon, ordered out the Picquet Guards, under Sir *J. Campbel*, who came and marched with him to *Lanoi*. The Colonel was then blamed for not having more Men on Flank, for being so negligent, as to suffer the Chariot to march where it did after notice of the Enemy's being on the Road, and for not pursuing immediatly, as soon as he had rallied, and retaking the Prisoners, as he must be persuaded the Enemy were inferior in Number, since, tho' acquainted with his Strength, and apprised of the Confusion he was in, they did not chuse to pursue him; but as an Enquiry into this Affair, before *Lig——r*, *C——l*, &c. threw no Blame on the Colonel, so neither shall I, and the rather as he is one who has often given signal Proofs of his being a good Officer. Strung
with

with
out
by I
Bert
thes
retur
hand
very
mul
to p
a Pi
thing
on t
cove
Elic
Bou
tish
plain
the
havi
give
at l
freq
and
Bur
if p
the
Ma
A
lery
Pon
two

with these little Affronts, we, at last, sent out two Parties of 400 each, commanded by Lieutenant Col. *Greenwood* and Lord *Robert Bertie*, to beat the Woods and the Haunts of these Partisans who molested us, but both returned, after a Night's Absence, empty handed. It were endless to particularize every Foraging we were troubled with, they multiplied to such a Number as brought us to publick Ridicule on the Stage of *Lisle*, in a Piece entitled, *Harlequin Fourageur*. Nothing material ever occurred in them, except on the Twentieth, when the Generals of the covering Party, *Coenders*, *Sandevell*, and *Elias* neglected to post the Chain to cover *Bouveignes*, the Village assigned to the *British* Cavalry, notwithstanding positive and plain Directions, for that Purpose; for which the two latter were put in Arrest, the first having excused himself, by alledging Orders given to the others. The Distance became at last so great, and the Loss of Horses so frequent, by falling into the Enemy's Hands, and by having their Backs ruined with the Burthens, that Forage would have cost less if paid for; it was at last resolved, to quit the *Chatalenie* of *Lisle*, and repass the *Marque*.

Accordingly on the twenty-eight the Artillery and heavy Baggage, marched through *Pont a Tressin*, and drew up on the Plain between *Sin* and *Bassieu*, covered by two *British*

tish Battalions, and one *Hanoverian*. Next Day the Army followed, and marched to the Camp at *Trocorne*, the Baggage moving by the Causeway came to Camp likewise, and the Rear Guard commanded by Lt. G. *Ilton*, M. G. *Onslow* and Br. *Churchill*, and consisting of the Grenadiers and *Higblanders*, broke the Bridges and took up the Pontoons without any Molestation from the Enemy, who appeared at a Distance on our old Ground. An hundred Men of the Party of *Lanoi*, posted by *H--l--y*, in a Farm near *Blondain*, to cover the March of the Cavalry, and ordered to remain till further Orders, were taken by the Enemy, as these further Orders were neglected to be sent them. General *Ilton* passed that Party, and took it so much amiss that another General should presume to give Orders, where it was his Province, as commanding the Rear Guard, that he would not bring them off with him.

The Evening before the March from *Anstin*, the Marshal received a certain and exact Account of the March of a *French* Party, headed by Count *Saxe*, and of their Position at *Pont Espieres*, with a View, no doubt, to disturb our Rear, in the intended Passage of the *Scheld*. A Copy of this Account he sent immediately to *A—g*, but he flustered with his usual Dinner Cup, put the Letter under his Pillow, and forgot to open it. Tho' this occasioned a Delay and Loss of a Night,

Night
mal
then
I ha
sau,
his
Cour
next
tack
E
Quan
strian
fell in
and p
taking
they
ing,
25 P
back
were
for th
cil of
seek
were
dy kn
was
Army
those
Highb
by L
Infan
Righ

Night, yet it might have been repaired, by making proper use of the next Day. But then, instead of continuing to march, (which I have good Authority for saying, Count *Nassau*, then at *Tournay*, agreed to join in with his Troops) we halted all that Day, and a Council of War was resolved to be held the next Day, to resolve whether they should attack the Day afterwards.

E'er the Council of War sat, the 30th.
 Quarter Master General of the *Au-*
strians and *Dutch*, escorted by some Hussars,
 fell in with the Grand Guard of the *French*,
 and put it to the Route; their Army on this
 taking the Alarm, and thinking ours (which
 they did not know was so near) was approach-
 ing, retired in the greatest Confusion, leaving
 25 Pieces of Cannon, which they did not send
 back for till the Evening. All this Day we
 were busied in laying Bridges over the *Scheld*,
 for the Passage of the Army, but the Coun-
 cil of War having magnanimously resolved to
 seek the Enemy next Morning, Dispositions
 were made for that Purpose (altho' every Bo-
 dy knew they were gone.) The advance Guard
 was formed of the Grenadiers of the whole
 Army, which marched in four Columns, and
 those of the Right Wing were joined by the
Highland Regiment, and were commanded
 by *Ligonier*, *Wentworth*, and *Pulteney*. The
 Infantry followed next, moving from the
 Right, each Line making a Column, and the

Rear was brought up by the Cavalry. In this Order *Pont Espieres* was passed, and the Army encamped with the Head Quarters the at *Chateau* of *Afflibam*. The Baggage was sent over the *Scheld*, with Orders to move down and keep up Pace with the Army ; so it drew up under *Mont Ecluse*, opposite to *Avelghom*.

October 2d, and *3d*, both halted.

The Army marched down to *Pitté-
4th. bam*, and the Baggage to *Oudenarde*.

The Army marched to *Heyfin*, and
6th. the Baggage passing thro' *Oudenarde*,
joined its March and came to Camp.

On the 7th, 600 Men under Col. *Fleming* and the Earls of *Panmure* and *Anerum*, marched with the Quarter Master General to *Deynse*, and possessed the Town while a Camp was marked facing the *Lys*: Next Day four Battalions were ordered to relieve, the Day following, the 600 ; but on strong Reports of an advancing Party of *French*, to attack *Deynse*, the Picquets marched under General *Zastrow*, and reinforced that Town, till relieved next Morning by the four Battalions under M. G. *Ariosti*.

During this General's Command at *Deynse*, he was seized with a Pannick on the Rumour of the Approach of a *French* Party, and burnt a Bridge over a Ditch beyond the *Lys*, to prevent their coming to him, when about 30 Yards from the Bridge a Battalion might have passed over the same Ditch a-breast.

The

The Country being extremely cut and close near *Deynse*; on the Report of their Quarter Masters Generals, the *Dutch* and *Austrians* did not chuse to march thither, but on the thirteenth went towards *Ghent*, and encamped between the *Lys* and the *Scheld*, having the Right Wing between them and the Camp.

Next Day the Right Wing marched in four Columns, each composed of the several Lines of Cavalry and Infantry, and their respective Baggages, and encamped near *Deynse*, where was the Head Quarters.

On the fifteenth of *October*, being the Day following, it crossed the *Lys* in four Columns, one composed of the *Highlanders*, *Guards*, and nine Regiments of Infantry that covered *Deynse*, and passed thro' that Town; a second of the Cavalry passed on a Bridge of Pontoons at *Bachten*; a third of the Infantry of *Deurloo*; and a fourth of the Artillery and Baggage, took the great Causeway to *Ghent*, and passed thro' it to the Camp at *Drogen*.

The Night preceeding this March, began a great Storm of Rain and Wind, which continuing with great Violence, the Marshal, to find proper Covering for the Men, thought proper to send them into Winter Quarters, and on the 17th marched the Horse and Horse Guards to *Brussels*.

On the 18th the Dragoons to *Ghent*.

On

On the 20th, the Infantry of the Cavalry to 6000, and an Half of that detached for *Brigade*, with *Cope's* Regiment of Dragoons to the Town.

On the 20th, the Remainder of the Cavalry of *Brigade* left the Camp, and the *Mar- thal* and Guards came into *Ghent*. The *Dutch* made heavy Complaints of our precipitate Separation, that we had left them in the Field exposed to the Enemy; but it was a Measure rendered necessary by the Extremity of the Weather, which obliged them to follow precipitantly our Example.

This ended this inglorious Campaign, to the Satisfaction of none abroad, and less to the Satisfaction of few at home; which added new Laurels to the Brows of the Generals who commanded, and produced the Fall of the Minister who directed. A Campaign the Issue of which, it is hoped, will not be attended with the Ruin of the House of *Stuart*, and the Loss of the Liberties of *Europe*, and of *Britain*; and which furnishes a melancholy Proof of this Truth, that in the Multitude of Leaders there is Folly and Danger.

FINIS



